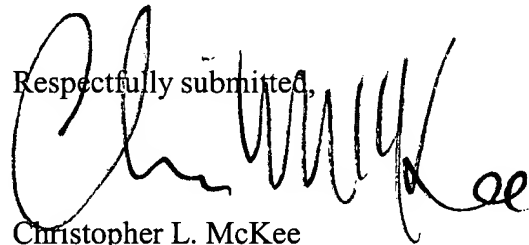


REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending. By this Amendment, minor editorial corrections are made to claim 1, and to a corresponding description in the Summary of the Invention section. A Response to Restriction Requirement is being filed concurrently herewith. Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher L. McKee", written over the words "Respectfully submitted,".

Christopher L. McKee
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Dated: February 20, 2004

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